



Texas Department of Transportation

DEWITT C. GREER STATE HIGHWAY BLDG. • 125 E. 11TH STREET • AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701-2483 • (512) 463-8585

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TO ALL TRANSIT OPERATORS

Dear Colleagues:

We all have seen tremendous advances in the last few years in alternative fuel technology. Bus and engine manufacturers as well as fuel suppliers are constantly providing more options to address our air quality concerns. TxDOT wants to provide transit operators as much flexibility as possible with respect to alternative fuel requirements.

Rather than try to issue and maintain a list of acceptable fuel options, we are instead prepared to recognize all commercially available technology and fuels that meet air quality goals. For example, ultra low sulfur diesel (ULSD) is now an option for you to consider. We will consider all reasonable requests for existing and upcoming vehicle contract awards to give you that flexibility.

When we say "reasonable requests", we have some basic expectations:

- In air quality non-attainment and near non-attainment areas, our goal is ULEV emission levels. All other areas would target LEV levels.
- Transit agencies are expected to predominantly use the engine-fuel combination that yields the desired emission levels. For example, transit systems indicating they will use ULSD must document the availability of that fuel and that vehicles have ULSD in their tanks rather than conventional diesel. Similarly, dual-fueled vehicles must use the "emission-friendly" option as a rule, rather than an exception.

If you have procurement activities in progress and wish to propose changes, please contact your TxDOT district public transportation coordinator. We will be providing additional guidance to those individuals shortly.

Sincerely,

Margot D. Massey, Director
Public Transportation Division

cc: District PTCs
Texas Transit Association